

**IN THE ABSTRACT**

**Kindly replace the ABSTRACT with the following:**

A method for preventing net update oscillation of a bus bridge by competing net update messages is presented. The method includes the steps of (a) determining whether a particular portal is a coordinator on its local bus; and proceeding to step (b) (i) if ~~said~~ the particular portal is a coordinator, otherwise, proceeding to step (b) (ii); (b) (i) determining whether ~~said~~ the particular portal finds a net update collision on its local bus; and proceeding to step (c) if the net update collision is found, (b)(ii) determining whether the particular portal receives an UPDATE\_ROUTE message from another portal that is a coordinator on the local bus; and proceeding to step (c) if the UPDATE\_ROUTE message is received; (c) setting a global net\_update bit to one by a lock procedure[[;]], (d) verifying whether the lock procedure in step (c) has been successfully performed by determining whether the net\_update bit has been set to one[[;]], (e) performing one of: (i) discarding the net update if it has been determined in step (d) that the lock procedure in step (c) has not been successfully performed[[;]], and (ii) processing the net update according to IEEE1394.1 bridge standard and setting the net\_update bit to zero.